

One Court of Justice

# **Michigan Supreme Court**

**2004 Annual Report**

**Probate Court  
Statistical Supplement**

## Introduction

In the Fall of 1997, the State Court Administrative Office commenced a project to revise the trial court caseload reports. The project was initiated partly in response to the creation of the family division of circuit court, but also to bring more uniformity between the three trial court jurisdictions. This new reporting system was implemented January 1, 2002. For caseload trends analysis see the *Michigan Supreme Court 2004 Annual Report*.

Much of the information in this report is due to the hard work and dedication of the trial courts and their information technology departments, the Judicial Information Systems, and staff of the State Court Administrative Office.

The caseload data for 2004 is provided in both a summary format and a detail format. The summary format is organized under categories that had been used in previous years so that comparisons can continue to be made from one year to the next. A legend is provided which explains under which category case type codes appear in the summary. The detail format shows the totals by each case type code.

# Statewide Probate Court Summary

# 2004 Court Caseload Report

	Estates, Trusts					Civil, Other		Guardianships, Conservators, Admissions, Mental Commitments							Total
	Det. of Heirs	Estate Admin.	Small Estates	Trust Inter Vivos	Trust Test.	Civil	Other Matters	Adult Cons.	Adult Guardian.	Minor Cons.	Minor Guardian.	Protective Orders	Judicial Adm.	Mental Com.	
Beginning Pending	6	1,435	148	233	89	382	59	874	1,825	408	1,287	111	58	771	7,686
New Filings	25	18,369	6,828	834	157	365	511	3,599	9,512	1,842	6,810	427	90	13,893	63,262
Reopened	0	932	249	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,193
<b>Total Caseload</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20,736</b>	<b>7,225</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>4,473</b>	<b>11,337</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>8,097</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>14,664</b>	<b>72,141</b>
Jury Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bench Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Uncontested/Dflt/Settled	0	0	0	0	0	102	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102
Petition Granted	0	17,959	6,747	568	110	0	422	2,621	7,368	1,675	5,364	346	41	5,936	49,157
Order Determining Testacy	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Order Determining Heirs	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Petition Denied	1	62	37	6	1	0	1	51	81	9	129	5	1	97	481
Transferred	0	10	0	5	0	0	1	15	45	8	23	1	0	18	126
Dismissed by Party	0	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75
Dismissed by Court	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
Petition Withdrawn/Dis.	0	177	62	33	11	0	5	719	1,514	76	974	17	25	2,742	6,355
Deferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,569	4,569
Inactive Status	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Disposition	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Case Type Change	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	24	113	9	174	5	1	4	370
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18,254</b>	<b>6,846</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>3,430</b>	<b>9,121</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>6,664</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>13,366</b>	<b>61,340</b>
<b>Ending Pending</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2,482</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>2,216</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1,298</b>	<b>10,801</b>

## Estates and Trusts

Estate Cases Supervised by the Court During the Year	4,542
Total Number of Trust Registrations	123

	Jan. 1	New	Closed	Dec. 31
Total Active Estate and Trust Cases	38,241	20,292	20,087	38,446

## Guardianships/Conservatorships

	Jan. 1	New	Closed	Dec. 31
Total Adults with a Guardian	30,919	7,376	9,449	28,846
Total Adults with a Conservator	16,695	3,599	4,875	15,419
Total Minors with a Guardian	34,458	6,810	8,855	32,413
Total Minors with a Conservator	16,794	1,842	2,660	15,976
Total Dev. Disabled Persons w/ a Guardian	18,728	2,136	1,347	19,517

## Wills

Total number of wills filed for safekeeping and delivered after death of testator	12,420
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## Foreign Birth

Total number of motions filed with the court to establish delayed registration of foreign birth by court order	502
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## Other Mental Commitment Petitions Filed and Disposed

Total Petitions Filed for Second Order	572
Total Petitions Filed for Continuing Order	1,407
Total Number of Supplemental Petitions Presented to the Court for Court Ordered Examination on an Application for Hospitalization and Total Number of Petitions Presented to the Court for Court Ordered Transportation of a Minor	3,196
Total Petitions Granted for Second Order	568
Total Petitions Denied for Second Order	7
Total Petitions Granted for Continuing Order	1,394
Total Petitions Denied for Continuing Order	10

Statewide Probate Court Detail

2004 Court Caseload Report

	Estates, Trusts						Civil/Other		Guardianships, Conservators, Admissions, Mental Commitments										
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Beginning Pending	224	1,211	6	148	89	233	382	59	874	408	356	1,456	13	957	58	330	771	111	7,686
New Filings	641	17,728	25	6,828	157	834	365	511	3,599	1,842	2,136	7,216	160	4,708	90	2,102	13,893	427	63,262
Reopened	141	791	0	249	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,193
Total Caseload	1,006	19,730	31	7,225	246	1,067	759	570	4,473	2,250	2,492	8,672	173	5,665	148	2,432	14,664	538	72,141
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Jury Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bench Verdict	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Uncontested/Dflt/Settled	0	0	0	0	0	0	102	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102
Petition Granted	639	17,320	0	6,747	110	568	0	422	2,621	1,675	1,907	5,320	141	3,656	41	1,708	5,936	346	49,157
Order Determining Testacy	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Order Determining Heirs	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Petition Denied	3	59	1	37	1	6	0	1	51	9	10	71	0	102	1	27	97	5	481
Transferred	5	5	0	0	0	5	0	1	15	8	10	35	0	16	0	7	18	1	126
Dismissed by Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75
Dismissed by Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	57
Petition Withdrawn/Dis.	19	158	0	62	11	33	0	5	719	76	69	1,434	11	647	25	327	2,742	17	6,355
Deferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,569	0	4,569
Inactive Status	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Disposition	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Case Type Change	19	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	9	0	113	0	139	1	35	4	5	370
Total Dispositions	685	17,569	17	6,846	122	612	260	429	3,430	1,777	1,996	6,973	152	4,560	68	2,104	13,366	374	61,340
	DA	DE	DH	PE	TT	TV	CZ	ML	CA	CY	DD	GA	GL	GM	JA	LG	MI	PO	Total
Ending Pending	321	2,161	14	379	124	455	499	141	1,043	473	496	1,699	21	1,105	80	328	1,298	164	10,801

Estates and Trusts

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## **Probate Court Caseload Annual Report Legend**

### **Estates, Trusts**

- Determination of Heirs – DH
- Estate Administration – DA, DE
- Small Estates – PE
- Trust Inter Vivos – TV
- Trust Testamentary – TT

### **Civil, Other**

- Civil – CZ
- Other Matters – ML

### **Guardianships, Conservators, Admissions, Mental Commitments**

- Adult Conservatorship – CA
- Adult Guardianship – DD, GA, GL
- Minor Conservatorship – CY
- Minor Guardianship – GM, LG
- Protective Orders – PO
- Judicial Admission – JA
- Mental Commitment – MI